

President said last night which was not quite true, because I think the American people really need to know the facts, and so we are going to call the President out.

GOVERNMENT GONE WILD

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Congress is spending money we don't have on things we cannot afford. We spent billions on the so-called stimulus that hasn't worked. The government took over the car industry and gave money to the fat cats on Wall Street. Congress gave money, America's money, to the banking industry, and this House passed a national energy tax.

The government is out of control. Nearly 10 percent of the people are unemployed. With these hard economic times, now we are told we have to spend \$1 trillion on a health care bill that is still confusing to most Americans. Where are we supposed to get the money?

We cannot continue to spend money we don't have and borrow it from our "friends" like China. This spending will cause inflation, and eventually somebody is going to get a massive tax increase to pay for a government gone wild.

Some taxacrats wish to tax small businesses into oblivion, the backbone of our country. Even if this were the greatest health care bill in the world, we can't afford to tax more Americans to pay for it. The American people deserve a break from all the spending, borrowing and taxation.

And that's just the way it is.

□ 1245

HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, a new Gallup poll says that 39 percent of Americans want their Member of Congress to vote against a health care overhaul while 37 percent want their Representative to support it. An Associated Press poll shows 49 percent oppose a health care overhaul. The numbers show a deep division in the Nation, one that was evident in August townhall meetings where the American people had their say. These were people who took the time to read the House bill and decide against it because of cost, complication and controversy.

Yet there are elements in all the proposals before Congress on which people can agree, and it's time to go back to the drawing board and be inclusive. As a former health care provider, I'd very much like to be a part of the solutions that will help the situation without breaking the bank. Tort reform is a

must to reduce the cost of health care. Allowing insurers to compete across State lines will increase competition and thereby lower costs. Addressing workforce issues is crucial as baby boomer doctors, nurses and technicians retire.

Let's look at the approximately 13 million Americans out of 303 million who don't have an option for insurance and find a way to help the population that actually needs our help.

HONORING THE EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SEPTEMBER 11 TERRORIST ATTACKS

(Mr. LANCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, as we approach the eighth anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks on our Nation, we honor those innocent people who perished on that terrible day and extend our continued prayers and sympathy to their loved ones. We remember the tremendous heroism and self-sacrifice of so many in New York, the Pentagon, and on a plane over Shanksville, Pennsylvania. Closer to home in New Jersey, communities across the Garden State remember those who perished and pay tribute to the distinguished service of the brave police officers, firefighters and first responders who answered the call and, in some cases, never returned home.

Today I come to the floor of the House to pay my special respect to the 81 New Jersey families in the Seventh Congressional District who lost loved ones as a result of the tragic terrorist attacks. To these families I say, we will never forget the sacrifices you and others have paid and continue to pay. I hope all Americans will pause tomorrow and take a moment to reflect on the tragedy of 9/11, to remember the victims, the heroes, and all the loved ones they left behind, while paying tribute to the men and women who serve and defend us today against the dangers we still face.

May God continue to bless the United States of America.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

SEPTEMBER 11 OBSERVANCES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. LOWEY. As we mark the eighth anniversary of the tragic terrorist attacks on our country, we are reminded of the adage that "time heals all wounds." At Ground Zero, bulldozers are laying the foundation for new tow-

ers, while millions carry on their daily routine. Many who lost spouses have remarried, finding comfort in new love. Infants have grown into children and children into adults, with thoughts that dwell on the future, rather than the past.

For this we should be grateful. No one should live in the perpetual shadow of grief. And yet the wounds are still raw. New Yorkers still perceive the skyline of Manhattan as maimed and incomplete. We are still gripped at certain moments by memories of loved ones that are unbearably painful. We are still at war, bearing the unfinished burden of rooting out the perpetrators and instigators of evil. And as a Nation, as a people, we understand that the innocence shattered on that awful morning 8 years ago can never be fully restored.

Our challenge then, as Americans, is to honor the loss and heed the lessons of 9/11, while also affirming at every opportunity the optimism and confidence that always defined this great Nation at its best. In this body, we do this by remaining strong and steadfast in our determination to confront terrorists and their sponsors, using the full spectrum of American power as an instrument of justice. We do this by, together with the firefighters, police officers, emergency workers and intelligence officers, committing to the hard work of securing our land against those who would do violence, ensuring that our transportation networks and energy facilities, our ports and our bridges are defended by more than feckless hope.

We do this by refusing to give up our liberties out of fear, knowing that a retreat from our founding values does more harm to America than any external enemy ever could. And we do this by pursuing the age-old American vision of a world lifted by freedom, knowledge and prosperity in which all men and women have the tools to build just and decent societies that live in peace with their neighbors.

It has been my duty and honor to serve and to serve those goals as a Member of the United States Congress. In tribute to all those who lost their lives 8 years ago, to all those who have lost their lives in Iraq, in Afghanistan in the time since, and to all those whose lives are still shaped every day by memory and loss, let us together commit to upholding these responsibilities until our work is done.

Thank you. May God bless America, and may God bless all people of goodwill.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Mr. TIAHRT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, last night President Obama told us that his administration would tackle medical malpractice reform as a way to lower health care costs. Defensive medicine